THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The diplomatic missions in Brazil, South Africa, China and Turkey do not have a sanctioned establishment for Air-attache.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All established vacancies of Air-Attaches, in Indian missions abroad have been filled.

रक्षा संपदा विभाग के भूखंडों को लीज पर दिया जाना

4151. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रक्षा संपदा विभाग के लीज पर दिए गए भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनका किराया प्राप्त हो चुका है तथा किराए की दर कितनी है और उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनका किराया बकाया है तथा यह कब से बकाया है;

(ग) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनकी लीज की अवधि समाप्त हो चुकी है; और

(घ) उन भूखंडों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिन पर हुए अवैध कब्जों को हटाने की कार्रवाई की जा रही है तथा इस संबंध में क्या प्रगति हुई है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन०वी०एन० सोमू): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Issuance of unfit Medicines by Armed Forces Medical Stores Depots

4152. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centrally purchased medicines costing Rs. 10.19 lakh which were found unfit were issued to patients prior to receipt of test reports by Armed Forces Medical Stores Depot, Lucknow and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to avoid such instances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) The drugs and medicines are purchased by the Armed Forces Medical Services from the manufacturers registered with the Directorate General of Quality Assurance or the Directorate General of Health Services. The manufacturers are registered only after their manufacturing process is inspected and found statisfactory. The medicines purchased centrally are tested by the Quality Assurance Organisation and only after their acceptance, they are released for consumption. In certain emergent situations, the Medical Store Depots make local purchases of medicines from registered firms and accept them on the basis of their claim. However, for ample precaution, some samples are sent for post laboratory testing. The drugs purchased in such emergent situation are issued without waiting for the results of the laboratory test wherever undertaken. In majority of cases, the laboratory tests confirm the specified standards of medicines. In a small number cases the medicines are not found to satisfy all the prescribed specifications. In such cases the medicin are returned to the suppliers for replacement or for recovery of the cost of medicines. In certain cases, restrictions are also placed on future purchases from such firms.

2. During the period from December 1991 to December 1996, some medicines locally purchased by the Armed Forces Medical Store Depots, Lucknow and Delhi, were found not to conform to the specifications. Even in these cases there was only marginal thereapeutic effect of little clinical significance.

Delay in appointment of dependents of deceased defence personnel

4153. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with Station Head Quarters, Delhi Cantt. for appointment of dependents of deceased